

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 07485 102147Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13
JUSE-00 NSAE-00 CTME-00 SNM-05 TRSE-00 ICA-11
NSC-05 OES-09 OMB-01 CG-00 DOTE-00 L-03 /072 W
-----033469 111753Z /46
R 102118Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3365

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: SNAR
SUBJECT: U.S. COAST GUARD EFFORTS TO SUPPRESS DRUG TRAFFICKING

REF: (A) STATE 128500, (B) STATE 201357

1. SOON AFTER RECEIPT OF REF A, AMBASSADOR APPROACHED FONMIN WHO SAID THAT PEDRO SORENSEN, DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN POLICY IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, WAS THE CONTACT POINT FOR THE EMBASSY ON THIS MATTER. POLCOUNS CALLED ON SORENSEN AND ORALLY DISCUSSED REF A. SORENSEN ASKED FOR A NOTE LAYING ALL OF THIS OUT, WHICH THE EMBASSY PROVIDED. GOV HAS NOT REPEAT NOT YET REPLIED TO EMBASSY NOTE. IN CONVERSATION OF AUGUST 3, POLCOUNS RAISED SUBJECT AGAIN WITH SORENSEN WHO SAID THE WHOLE MATTER BEING VENTILATED BY THE VARIOUS GOV AGENCIES CONCERNED AND THAT HE, SORENSEN, WAS IN THE PROCESS OF COLLECTION THE VARIOUS PIECES OF LEGISLATION REQUESTED IN THE EMBASSY NOTE. EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO FOLLOW UP WITH SORENSEN.

2. WITH RESPECT TO PARA 7B OF REF A, DEA HAS GOOD WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH GOV VESSEL REGISTRATIONS AUTHORITIES AND REGISTRATIONS CAN USUALLY BE VERIFIED WITHIN AN HOUR OR TWO DURING WORKING HOURS. IT IS VIRUTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO
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VERIFY REGRISTRATIONS AFTER WORKING HOURS DURING THE WEEK OR ON THE WEEKEND. EMBASSY'S CONTACT POINT TO OBTAIN PERMISSION FOR SHIP SEIZURES IS VICE FOREIGN MINISTER. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, GOV HAS BEEN RELATIVELY PROMPT IN GRANTING PERMISSION TO BOARD VENEZUELAN REGISTERED VESSELS. THE ONLY EXCEPTION TO THIS WAS THE M/V JOSE GREGORIO, BECAUSE GOV DECIDED IT WOULD NOT ALLOW USCG TO FIRE ON VENEZUELAN

REGISTERED VESSEL AND ENDANGER THE LIVES OF PERSONS ABOARD SUCH VESSELS.

3. IN SUM, EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT UNTIL GOV ANSWERES EMBASSY NOTE AND IS PREPARED TO TALK WITH USG TEAM, THAT A PROCEDURE EXISTS FOR VERIFYING VENEZUELAN REGISTRIES AND FOR OBTAINING AUTHORIZATION TO BOARD AND SEARCH WHICH IS AS EFFICIENT AS THE VENEZUELAN REALITY WILL ALLOW.
CROWLEY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUGS, COAST GUARDS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CARACA07485
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Format: TEL
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780879/aaaacobk.tel
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Litigation Codes:
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